

DNA ENCODING A HUMAN MELANIN CONCENTRATING HORMONE  
RECEPTOR (MCH1) AND USES THEREOF

Abstract of the Disclosure

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This invention provides an isolated nucleic acid encoding a human MCH1 receptor, a purified human MCH1 receptor, vectors comprising isolated nucleic acid encoding a human MCH1 receptor, cells comprising such vectors, antibodies directed to a human MCH1 receptor, nucleic acid probes useful for detecting nucleic acid encoding human MCH1 receptors, antisense oligonucleotides complementary to unique sequences of nucleic acid encoding human MCH1 receptors, transgenic, nonhuman animals which express DNA encoding a normal or mutant human MCH1 receptor, methods of isolating a human MCH1 receptor, methods of treating an abnormality that is linked to the activity of a human MCH1 receptor, as well as methods of determining binding of compounds to mammalian MCH1 receptors. This invention provides a method of modifying the feeding behavior of a subject which comprises administering to the subject an amount of an MCH1 antagonist effective to decrease the body mass of the subject and/or decrease the consumption of food by the subject. This invention further provides a method of treating a subject suffering from depression and/or anxiety which comprises administering to the subject an amount of an MCH1 antagonist effective to treat the subject's depression and/or anxiety.

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